



Commissioner for Patents  
PO Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Re: U.S. Utility Patent Application  
Application No. 10/810,835; Filed: March 29, 2004  
For: **Multi-Wheel-Drive Vehicle with a Front Transaxle Device**  
Inventor: Akihiro IMA  
Our Ref: 0666.1760002/TGD

Sir:

Transmitted herewith for appropriate action are the following documents:

1. Claim For Priority Under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) In Utility Application; and
2. One (1) return postcard.

It is respectfully requested that the attached postcard be stamped with the date of filing of these documents, and that it be returned to our courier. In the event that extensions of time are necessary to prevent abandonment of this patent application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned.

The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 19-0036.

Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.

Tracy-Gene G. Durkin  
Attorney for Applicant  
Registration No. 32,831

TGD/nar  
Enclosures

Robert Greene Sterne  
Edward J. Kessler  
Jorge A. Goldstein  
David K.S. Cornwell  
Robert W. Esmond  
Tracy-Gene G. Durkin  
Michele A. Cimbala  
Michael B. Ray  
Robert E. Sokohl  
Eric K. Steffe  
Michael Q. Lee  
Steven R. Ludwig  
John M. Covert  
Linda E. Alcorn  
Robert C. Millonig  
Lawrence B. Bugaisky  
Donald J. Featherstone  
Michael V. Messinger

Judith U. Kim  
Timothy J. Shea, Jr.  
Patrick E. Garrett  
Heidi L. Kraus  
Edward W. Yee  
Albert L. Ferro\*  
Donald R. Banowit  
Peter A. Jackman  
Teresa U. Medler  
Jeffrey S. Weaver  
Kendrick P. Patterson  
Vincent L. Capuano  
Eldora Ellison Floyd  
Thomas C. Fiala  
Brian J. Del Buono  
Virgil Lee Beaston  
Kimberly N. Reddick  
Theodore A. Wood

Elizabeth J. Haanes  
Joseph S. Ostroff  
Frank R. Cottingham  
Christine M. Lhulier  
Rae Lynn Prengaman  
Jane Shershenovich\*  
Lawrence J. Carroll\*  
George S. Bardmesser  
Daniel A. Klein\*  
Jason D. Eisenberg  
Michael D. Specht  
Andrea J. Kamage  
Tracy L. Muller\*  
LuAnne M. DeSantis  
John J. Figueroa  
Ann E. Summerfield  
Tiera S. Coston\*  
Aric W. Ledford\*

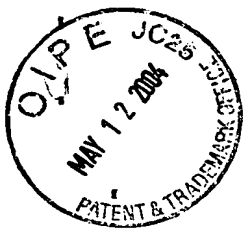
Michael D. Specht  
Jessica L. Parezo  
Timothy A. Doyle\*  
Cynthia M. Bouchez  
Nicole D. Dretar\*  
Ted J. Ebersole  
**Registered Patent Agents\***  
Karen R. Markowicz  
Nancy J. Leith  
Helene C. Carlson  
Gaby L. Longworth  
Matthew J. Dowd  
Aaron L. Schwartz  
Mary B. Tung  
Katrina Y. Pei Quach  
Bryan L. Skelton  
Robert A. Schwartzman

Teresa A. Colella  
Jeffrey S. Lundgren  
Victoria S. Rutherford  
Eric D. Hayes  
Michelle K. Holoubek  
Robert H. DeSelms  
Simon J. Elliott  
Julie A. Heider  
Mita Mukerjee  
Scott M. Woodhouse

**Of Counsel**  
Kenneth C. Bass III  
Evan R. Smith  
Marvin C. Guthrie  
\*Admitted only in Maryland  
\*Admitted only in Virginia  
•Practice Limited to  
Federal Agencies

May 12, 2004

**WRITER'S DIRECT NUMBER:**  
(202) 772-8660  
**INTERNET ADDRESS:**  
TDURKIN@SKGF.COM



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Akihiro IMA

Appl. No.: 10/810,835

Filed: March 29, 2004

For: **Multi-Wheel-Drive Vehicle with a  
Front Transaxle Device**

Art Unit: *To Be Assigned*

Examiner: *To Be Assigned*

Atty. Docket: 0666.1760002/TGD

**Claim For Priority Under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d)  
In Utility Application**

Commissioner for Patents  
PO Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) is hereby claimed to the following priority document, filed in a foreign country within twelve (12) months prior to the effective filing of the above-referenced United States utility patent application:

Country	Priority Document Appl. No	Filing Date
JAPAN	2000-172151	June 8, 2000

A certified copy of the listed priority document was submitted in the grandparent case (Appl. No. 09/876,092). Prompt acknowledgment of this claim and submission is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.

Tracy-Gene G. Durkin  
Attorney for Applicant  
Registration No. 32,831

Date: May 12, 2004

1100 New York Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20005-3934  
(202) 371-2600